

Appl. No. 09/889,592  
Amdt. Dated February 4, 2004  
Reply to Final Office Action of Sept. 26, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Please cancel claims 39, 40, 44 and 46 without prejudice.

1-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid which encodes the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 3 or the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 4.

38. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, which comprises the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 1 or the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 2.

39-40. (Canceled)

41. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 38, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that induces oocyte maturation or modulates cell division.

- 42. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 39, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that induces oocyte maturation or modulates cell division.
- 43. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, further comprising an expression control sequence operably linked to a coding sequence.
- 44. (Canceled)
- 45. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 37.
- 46. (Canceled)
- 47. (Previously presented) A diagnostic marker for cell proliferation or cell differentiation for hybridization experiments to determine the amount of homologous nucleic acid sequences, wherein said diagnostic marker comprises the nucleic acid of claim 37.
- 48. (Previously presented) A method for determining proliferation or differentiation status of a cell, said method comprising determining the amount of nucleic acid present in the cell that is homologous to the nucleic acid sequence of claim 37, determining the amount of protein produced from the homologous nucleic acid, and correlating said amount of

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protein to the cell's proliferation or differentiation rate, thereby determining proliferation or differentiation status of the cell .